

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /071 W
----- 067487

R 170855Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1951

COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND

CINPAC HONOLULU HI

IPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T SAIGON 0624

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
16 JAN 75, REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION. QUOTE:

S E C R E T NHA TRANG 0035

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT VS

SUBJECT: 1. ADDITIONAL ACCESS ROADS TO QUANG DUC BEING EXPLORED
2. INCREASED RICE RESERVE ORDERED IN HIGHLANDS

1. IN CONVERSATION JANUARY 11 WITH CONSUL GENERAL AND DPO,
BRIG GENERAL LE VAN THAN, DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL MR-II,
COMMENTED THAT HE WAS CONCERNED OVER THE FUTURE OF QUANG DUC
PROVINCE NOW THAT THE PHUOC LONG BATTLE WAS OVER. HE ANTICIPATED
THAT DUC LAP WOULD BE A TARGET FOR COMMUNIST ATTENTION AND
INDICATED THAT A DRIVE AGAINST GIA NGHIA COULD BE EXPECTED IF
DUC LAP FELL.

2. GENERAL THAN NOTED THAT QL-14, WHICH PASSES THROUGH DUC LAP,
WAS THE SOLE AVENUE OF RESUPPLY FOR GIA NGHIA BY LAND. ACCORDINGLY
HE SAID, HE WAS URGENTLY EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES OF OPENING
UP OTHER AVENUES TO CONNECT QUANG DUC WITH LAM DONG, TUYEN DUC
AND DARLAC. HIGHWAY 8B RUNNING IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION

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FROM GIA NGHIA TO DI LINH IN LAM DONG, WAS ONE POSSIBILITY; PROBABLY

THE BEST ONE, BUT THERE WAS ALSO AN OLD ROAD RUNNING IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION FROM GIA NGHIA THROUGH THE DUC XUYEN AREA OF QUANG DUC TO THE LAC THIEN AREA OF DARLAC THAT WOULD BE EXPLORED TOO.

3. GENERAL THAN EMPHASIZED THAT EXPLORATION OF THESE NEW LOCS WAS BEING CARRIED OUT URGENTLY BUT VERY SECRETLY.

4. ACCORDING TO II CORPS HQS IN NHA TRANG, SAIGON HAS ORDERED INCREASED RICE RESERVES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL AND CIVIL SERVANTS IN QUANG DUC, DARLAC, PLEIKU, KONTUM AND PHU BON. THESE FIVE PROVINCES WERE ORDERED TO MAINTAIN A 90 DAY RICE RESERVE IN THEIR WAREHOUSES IN CONTRAST TO A 60 DAY RESERVE IN ALL OTHER PROVINCES AND THE NATIONAL FOOD AGENCY HAS AGREED TO EXTEND THEM THE CREDIT TO MAKE THE REQUIRED RICE PURCHASES. THE INCREASED COMMUNIST THREAT TO THESE PROVINCES AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT ROAD BLOCS MAY HALT RESUPPLY CONVOYS WERE CITED AS THE REASONS BEHIND THIS ACTION. II CORPS HQS HERE NOTED THAT THE NATIONAL FOOD AGENCY ALSO HAS 3000 TONS OF RICE STORED IN ITS LARGE WAREHOUSE IN PLEIKU AND AN ADDITIONAL 2000 TONS STORED IN DARLAC. A MEETING TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORDER IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 17 IN NHA TRANG. SIGNED SPEAR. UNQUOTE.
MARTIN

SECRET

NNN

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